various crop oriented Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented to this Ministry.

Commercial Crops in Assam

2267. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to encourage and motivate raising commercial crops in Assam in view of acute unemployment problem; and

(b) whether Government are considering to set up agro-industries with common facility service centre and other Agro-processing activities in Assam to give booster to the local farmers there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

Depressed Scientists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute

2268. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Scientists working in Indian Agricultural Research Institute and Indian Council of Agricultural Research are in a stage of depression;

(b) whether it is a fact that some scientists in the past committed suicides; if so, the remedial steps Government have taken in the matter;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a Senior scientist has moved the Central Administrative Tribunal; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 15th November, 1991 in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any investigation is being made; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA: (a) and (b) Sir, it is not correct to say that the Scientists of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute/Indian Council of Agricultural Research are in a stage of depression. An inquiry into the cases of suspected suicides has revealed that the suicides by scientists has been mainly due to personal reasons. However, the Government has been making constant efforts to create congenial working conditions for the scientific community. Personnel policies of the ICAR are reviewed from time to time by High Level Committees and necessary follow-up action is taken.

(c) to (g) A Principal Scientist of Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi has filed an application in the Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi against the orders passed by the competent authority imposing the penalty of removal from service on charges of misconduct, misbehaviour and disobedience. The news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 15-11-1991, relates to this application. The penalty of removal from service was imposed after following the procedure laid down in the CCS (CC&A) Rules, 1965 as extended to the ICAR employees.

विभिन्न चयन समितियों/बोर्डों में अनुसूचित जातियों/अनुसूचित जनजातियों और अल्पसंख्यकों के प्रतिनिधि

2269. **मौलाना अबैदुल्ला खान आजमी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मंत्रालय द्वारा चयन समितियां/बोर्डों में अनुसूचित जातियों/अनु-